

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

41-1745

ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

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June 13, 1979 JUN 11 1979

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Constitution of Texas, I hereby veto Senate Bill 785 because of the following objections:

This bill relates solely to the District Courts of Dallas County and expands greatly existing law which permits the appointment of special masters now used in domestic relations cases to apply to all District Courts of Dallas County. It is the opinion of some that District Judges of the State of Texas are elected representatives of the people under the provisions of the Constitution of Texas and the powers and duties delegated to the District Judges cannot be further delegated. Further the qualifications of District Judges are set forth in the Constitution in Article V, Section 7. Under Senate Bill 785 the qualifications of a Master are only that he or she be an attorney licensed to practice law in Texas, and are not elected by anyone and responsible only to the District Judge. Further Senate Bill 785 applies to only Dallas County and does not meet the requirements of Article III, Section 56 of the Constitution. Finally, Senate Bill 785 raises the question of whether or not the right to trial by jury is abrogated under proceedings provided in the bill. No fiscal note is attached to the bill letting the people of Dallas know how much in local funds would be required for the Masters. For these reasons I therefore veto Senate Bill 785.

Respectfully,

W. P. Clements, Jr.
William P. Clements, Jr.
Governor



FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
12:45 pm O'CLOCK

JUN 14 1979

Secretary of State